

Re FCNP

From: Jhtcav@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 20, 2014 10:04 AM
To: Gross, Penny
Subject: Re: FCNP

Hi Penny:

The meeting with the falls Church staff went well. On our end we had Liz, Joanne, Kris Morley-Nikfar, Mike Garcia, Marianne and me. They had thier Public Works Director (name escapes me) Jim Snyder, Loren Bruce and later Wyatt Shields the City Manager.

The conversation primarily revolved around Transportation as you would expect. Jim Snyder was particularly interested in making a strong case for the connection to the East Falls Church Metro station and he and I see eye on this. I have been pushing this since day one on the TF. Jim believes that making the case for this makes the whole 7 Corners Plan more viable and I also agree with this.

There was a lot of discussion on the ring road that separates Rt 7 from Rt 50 Traffic and gets rid of the confusing lights on Rt 7--that is a connection from East Broad St over 50 accross Sleepy Hollow Road on to Castle place across Castle Place over Rt 7 and to a new bridge over 50 to then connect with Wilson Blvd--I'll show you on a map as it is easier to explain visually. The FC position was the the ROW identified on the Plan affected the Hillwood Ave neighborhood. So Kris Morley-Nikfar the transportation planner started in with roadway geometrics, VDOT and etc. But I cut through the BS after 15 minutes of dialogue and told them that after-all this was a political process and making appropriate alignment adjustments was what I would ask the TF to do unless the staff came back with a revision that made it tighter as proposed by FC. So, "Urika" (SP?) the staff agreed to tighten up the alignment (putting the proposed ring road all in Fairfax Co) and we now have an alignment that the FC staff has bought in to. I'll show it to you on Friday. This takes care of the big FC issue, and if we can meet with the Falls Church News Press before next Tuesdays 7 Corners TF meeting you can offer him a scoop--I think that they go to press today.

We also talked about the presentation to the City Council. We addressed the issue of close cooperation over the past 1 & 1/2 years with Loren Bruce invited to the TF meetings, Loren's participation in the Land Use Charrette and both Loren and Jim Snyder's participation in the Transportation Charrette, and the coordination meetings we have had staff to staff. All agreed that Jim would lead off with this.

I also made the point that we need to tell the Council that they are getting a briefing on this Plan before the Fairfax County Planning Commission or the Fairfax County BOS has had a chance to see it or hold hearings. Wyatt Shields that that was a strong statement relative to cooperation and should resonate.

We talked additionally about the fact that what the 7 Corners Plan will propose is in direct support of what FC is proposing for their Eastern area. They will propose additional retail which our additional residential will support, so bringing in individuals with higher disposable incomes into the area is a very positive result.

The issue of the negative and erroneous press information came up and I passed along that you were going to reach out to the editor to see if he would like to meet and everyone that that was a good idea. My other point was even though there were a multitude of errors for us to send a letter to the editor with corrections would just get us into a who struck John and the editor would likely get his back up and we couldn't win a fight like that.

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I also offered to meet with anyone on the council between now and the presentation so they could ask questions that they might not want to get into in the limited time that they would have after our presentation and Wyatt Shields that that was a good idea and would make the offer to the Mayor first.

That kind of covers it.

Best,
John

-----Original Message-----

From: Gross, Penny <Penny.Gross@fairfaxcounty.gov>

To: 'jhtcav' <jhtcav@aol.com>

Sent: Tue, Aug 19, 2014 5:50 pm

Subject: FCNP

John: At the risk of becoming a nuisance e-mailer today, I wanted to let you know that Nick Benton called me this afternoon about our favorite task force. I reminded him that it is a 40-year planning horizon, that the bulldozers are not coming down Route 7 (that part was off the record), that he missed a portion of the meeting recently that would have given him a better sense of what was happening, and that the recommendations will come to me for review, not go directly to the PC without my two cents' worth. I also suggested that, perhaps, it would be a good idea for us to sit down with him to more fully explore and explain the whole Seven Corners TF discussions. He jumped at that chance and I told him I would talk with you Friday about joint schedules. We closed the conversation by his reminding me that he really would like a meeting with us...

Penny

Penelope A. Gross
Mason District Supervisor
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors